

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 762  
By Shepard

A RESOLUTION to recognize the many contributions of Dr. Laurence C. Jackson of Dickson on the occasion of the observance of the bicentennial celebration of the founding of Dickson County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are particularly pleased to celebrate historic milestones in the histories of the counties of this state and to specially recognize the significant contributions of leading citizens of such counties and their communities to their growth and development; and

WHEREAS, one such progressive community is Dickson County, which has been celebrating its bicentennial, and one such outstanding citizen is the late Dr. Laurence C. Jackson, a prominent physician, hospital founder and owner, and former Mayor of Dickson; and

WHEREAS, L.C. Jackson was born in a log cabin in South Pittsburg, the first of seven children of the late Laurence and Margaret Dietzen Jackson; his father worked in an iron foundry and his mother was a homemaker; and

WHEREAS, L.C. Jackson decided to become a physician and enrolled in the University of Tennessee School of Medicine in Memphis where he graduated in 1931; while he was working at Knoxville General Hospital as a U.T. Undergraduate, he met Margaret Ison of Berea, Kentucky, whom he married during his second year of medical school on June 24, 1929; and

WHEREAS, upon graduating from medical school, Dr. Jackson completed his internship at Knoxville General Hospital and a year's residency at St. Mary's Hospital in Knoxville; he then served two years as Assistant Superintendent at Eastern State Hospital and two years in the Army Medical Corps; and

WHEREAS, in 1937, Dr. L.C. Jackson responded to a newspaper advertisement seeking a doctor to locate in Dickson, opening a practice over Kuhn's Five and Dime store on Main Street; on January 1, 1940, he opened a clinic adjacent to the First United Methodist Church on



North Main Street with his sister, Anna Lea Jackson Graves as a nurse and Anna Deason as office manager; and

WHEREAS, his compassionate manner and reluctance to send statements to patients led to a steady growth in practice as people appreciated his respect for their economic circumstances and his willingness to allow them to settle their accounts on their own schedules; in 1946 he was joined in the practice by his brothers William and Jimmy and the next year was able to expand the clinic to 25 beds, a surgical suite, and an obstetrical unit; and

WHEREAS, in 1947, Dr. L.C. Jackson was elected Mayor of Dickson; during his tenure, a bond issue was approved to pay a portion of construction costs for the new Oakmont School, natural gas service was begun, and a modern sewer system was installed, laying the groundwork for the city's continued growth and development; and

WHEREAS, Anne Deason, a long-time resident of Dickson, has said, "Dickson County would not be what it is today were it not for Dr. L.C. Jackson. His vision and interest to improve the quality of life for Dickson County was unmatched. It's why he ran for Mayor. He wanted to implement his vision to set forth his plan that would impact Dickson County for all time"; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson brothers purchased property on Highway 70 East in 1956 to erect a new hospital, and in 1958 Goodlark Hospital opened; the hospital was dedicated in honor of Laurence and Margaret Dietzen Jackson, parents of the Jackson brothers; and

WHEREAS, Dr. L. C. Jackson moved to Florida in the mid 1960's and spent 20 years of retirement there; he moved back to Dickson in the mid-1980's and remained there until his death in early 1987; in May of that year a four-floor, 56-bed wing was added to Goodlark Hospital named in honor of Dr. L.C. Jackson; and

WHEREAS, Dr. L.C. and Margaret Jackson were the proud parents of Dr. Tommy Jackson, Delores, Cecilia, and Dr. Richard Jackson; and

WHEREAS, Dr. L.C. Jackson's long and outstanding contributions to the practice of medicine and service to his community are worthy of our deep appreciation and have clearly helped make the City of Dickson and Dickson County what they are today; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, that we join with the citizens of Dickson County in celebrating their bicentennial and in specially honoring the stellar contributions of Dr. Laurence C. Jackson to the growth and prosperity of Dickson County and to the admirable quality of life enjoyed by its citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation to family members of Dr. L.C. Jackson with this final clause omitted from such copy.